and great-grandfather. He attempted to reduce the inherited extravagance by economies at court and applied himself to the business of government with diligence and energy. Yet he was compromising and far from popular. The downfall of Ho Shen by no means ended the corruption in officialdom. Rebellions continued to break out—ominous indications that the government was neither so firm nor so efficient as formerly. A mutiny disturbed the army, for some years pirates infested the south coasts, an attempt to assassinate the Emperor barely failed of success, and another anti-dynastic secret society—this time called by the name of *Tien Li,* or Heavenly Reason (or Eternal Principles)—engineered an uprising during which some of the plotters forced their way into the imperial palace during the Emperor's absence and were foiled in part through the courage of one of Chia Ch'ing's sons, the later Tao Kuang.

Chia Ch'ing, however, abated none of the attitude of his predecessors toward foreigners. He was, indeed, even more arrogant and unyielding. He vigorously persecuted the Roman Catholics, quite possibly because he feared that their efforts might lead to more sedition, and he began to terminate the employment of missionaries in the service of the government at Peking. A Russian embassy was turned back, in 1806, before it reached Peking, because the Czar's envoy refused to perform the *kotow* when he should be received by the Emperor. This *kotow,* or prostration, became to Europeans a symbol of that recognition of Chinese suzerainty to which they would not agree and long remained a bone of contention. A British embassy, led by Lord Amherst, ar-

rived in 1816, seeking better trade conditions, but It was treated with much less courtesy than had been that led by Lord Macartney. After much disagreement over the method of reception it was dismissed without an audience, and with a haughty mandate which clearly indicated that the Emperor regarded the King of England as the prince of a tributary state.

THE BEGINNING OF THE REIGN OF TAO KXJANG

In 1820 the death of Chia Ch'ing brought to the throne, under the reign title of Tao Kuang, the prince who had shown such courage when rebels invaded the palace. Tao Kuang proved to be little if any better a ruler than his father: luxury and the